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JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
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HERALD.

Volume XXXIV.....No. 358

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth st.—THE
DEAR'S MOTO.NIRLOS GARDEN, Broadway.—THE DRAMA OF
LITTLE EMILY.WOODS MUSEUM AND MENAGERIE, Broadway, cor-
ner Thirtieth st.—Matinee daily. Performance every evening.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—MAGNET—ROBERT
MACAIRE.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 125th street.—
THE WOODS.THE TAMMANY, Fourteenth street.—THE BUREAU
OF BAD DICKY.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of Fifth avenue and
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MACAIRE.leave pier 20 North river, at twelve M. to-morrow
(Saturday) for Glasgow, touching at Londonderry.The General Transatlantic Company's steamer
Ville de Paris, Captain Surmont, will sail to-morrow
morning for Havre and Havre, leaving pier 59 North
river about eleven o'clock. The French mails will
close at the Post Office at nine A. M. 25th inst.The steamship United States, Captain Smith, of
the Merchants' line, will leave pier No. 12 North
river at three P. M. to-day, Friday, for New Orleans
direct.The stock market yesterday was extremely dull,
but in the main steady. Gold was strong between
the limits of 120½ and 121, closing finally at 120½.

Prominent Arrivals in the City.

Colonel J. Tucker, of Boston; General Byron
Ladin, of North Carolina, and A. H. Ladin, of New
York, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.General Leach, of Bermuda; W. H. Fessenden and
L. M. Morrill, of Maine, are at the Astor House.General T. L. Clingman, of North Carolina; Gen-
eral J. M. Brannon and Major T. Elson, of the
United States Army, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.James W. Watson, of China; Señor Alvarez, of
Cuba, and W. H. Fowler, of Tennessee, are at the St.
Elmo Hotel.General Pitcher, of West Point, Captain Hay New-
ton and E. G. Williams, of England, are at the Bre-
voort House.General Este, of Washington; General Ribley, of
London; General Clifton B. Fisk, of St. Louis;
Senator Conkling, of New York; ex-Governor Buck-
ingham, of Connecticut; Congressman D. McCar-
thy, of New York, and L. A. Bigelow, of Boston, are
at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.J. W. Currier arrived yesterday in the big Monte
Cristo, from San Domingo, and will resume the
duties of Consul to that republic. He is stopping at
the Everett House.

Prominent Departures.

General Worthington, for Washington; Colonel
Chickering, for Boston; Colonel S. Pulling, for Chi-
cago; Governor Jewell, for Connecticut; G. McCom-
ber, for Saratoga; J. A. Poore, for Portland, and W.
Colburn, for Detroit.The newly appointed Consul for Jamaica, J. W.
Wheeler, sailed yesterday with his family, in the
burg Ponce, for Kingston. Mr. Wheeler goes out to
supercede Mr. Aaron Gregg.The Alabama Claims—The Case As It
Stands.The correspondence between the State De-
partment and our Minister in London and with
the British government on the Alabama claims,
which was submitted to Congress, and which
we published yesterday, shows that no pro-
gress has been made toward a settlement and
that the case stands about in the same position
it did when the late administration went out of
power last March. The rejection of the con-
vention made between Reverdy Johnson and
Lord Clarendon by the Senate, and the
speeches of Senators at that occasion, seem to
have struck with such force that the subject was
dropped for a time. However, Mr. Fish, the
new Secretary of State under the new admin-
istration of General Grant, deemed it his duty
in May last to address Mr. Motley, the suc-
cessor of Mr. Reverdy Johnson at the Court of
St. James, on the question. He says in this
despatch, that the United States government
in rejecting the recent convention abandons
neither its own claims nor those of its citizens,
nor the hope of an early, satisfactory and
friendly settlement of the questions pending
between the two governments, and Mr. Mot-
ley is directed to call the attention of Lord
Clarendon to these views.On the 28th of June Mr. Fish again writes
to Mr. Motley, informing him that whenever
negotiations or discussions on the subject of
the Alabama claims shall be renewed the
President wishes them to be carried on in
Washington, and that the time will arrive for
this whenever the British government shall
propose a discussion or intimate a desire to
reopen the negotiations.Mr. Fish writes again to Mr. Motley, Sep-
tember 25, to the effect that time having been
allowed for the "subsidence of any excitement
or irritation growing out of recent events"—
that is, of the rejection of the convention and
the speeches in the Senate—the President thinks
the discussion or negotiation might be re-
opened. Upon this Mr. Fish writes a lengthy
despatch, going over the whole ground again
that Mr. Seward and Mr. Reverdy Johnson
had gone over before, stating the cause of our
grievances against Great Britain and the
foundation of our claims for reparation. It is
the same history of the case as presented pre-
viously, and which is known to our readers
generally. In a note of the same date to Mr.
Motley the Secretary of State reiterates that
should the British government be disposed to
discuss the question the President hopes that
government will be willing to conduct the dis-
cussion at Washington.On the 6th of November Lord Clarendon
writes to Mr. Thornton, the British Minister at
Washington, reciting the substance of Mr.
Fish's communication of September 25, and,
after expressing regret that the former pro-
posed settlement was rejected, states that the
initiation of fresh propositions should come
from the United States. He says that it must
be obvious "her Majesty's government cannot
make any new proposition or run the risk of
another unsuccessful negotiation until they
have information more clearly than that which
is contained in Mr. Fish's despatch respecting
the basis upon which the government would be
disposed to negotiate." He complains that
Mr. Fish has not given any indication of the
means or terms of adjustment, and that the
United States should expect a proposition to
come from that side after rejecting the con-
vention that had already been negotiated. This
is as far as the correspondence goes, which
has been brought up to within a few weeks of
the present time. Whether the administra-
tion has done anything since or any negotia-
tion is now going on we are not informed.Of course there is a good deal of diplomatic
subterfuge in these communications, and par-
ticularly in that of Lord Clarendon; but we
must say he makes a good point when he
argues that the United States ought to state
on what basis it is disposed to reopen nego-
tiations. Why, after all the terrible and in-
flated rhetoric of Mr. Sumner in the Senate on
these Alabama claims, after all that has been
said and written, and after this long delay,
should not the United States government be
ready to hand in its bill, or to state the terms
on which it will accept a settlement? Do we
want indemnity for actual losses to our citi-
zens by the Anglo-rebel corsairs? If so, no
Englishman is needed to tell us what the
amount is. We can cast it up and state the
amount of the bill without admitting improper
claims or dealing unfairly. Does the govern-
ment propose to go further than this, and
to claim damages for the nation for the
destruction of our mercantile and
commercial interests? If so, let us say
what the amount should be or what com-
pensation we require. Do we want an acknow-ledgment from Great Britain of its error or
an apology for it? Then let us say so. What
does all this diplomatic palaver amount to? It
will never solve the question, and is only used
as a political hobby by such men as Mr. Sum-
ner and Mr. Fish to make a sensation or for
the hope of gaining popularity. The govern-
ment shows its weakness by hesitating and
beating round the bush. Its conduct is un-
worthy this powerful republic. Let us tell
England exactly what we want—that we con-
sider it due to us—in a dignified and friendly
manner, and without making unreasonable
claims, and rest the case there. If the British
government should refuse to accept the terms
we can wait till some opportunity occurs to
take payment or reparation ourselves. That
is the only course, under the circumstances,
for this great country to take. To take any
other will show indecision and weakness and
will be humiliating.One thing is particularly worthy of notice in
Mr. Fish's long despatch on the ground and
nature of the Alabama claims, because it gives
a clue to the weak, temporizing and contra-
dictory course of the administration with regard
to Cuba. The Secretary, in enumerating the
many instances in which this government has
fulfilled the obligations of neutrality to other
nations by way of contrast to the conduct of
England in the case of the Southern rebels,
refers to its course with regard to the present
insurrection in Cuba. Yet he admits in
another part of this despatch that each nation
must be the judge for itself when it
should or should not recognize the belliger-
ency of any people. This allusion to Cuba
shows plainly that in the view of Mr. Fish,
and according to the views of Mr. Sumner,
Hear and others who have influence over
him, the Alabama claims stand in the way of
the recognition of the Cubans. Yet there
would be no parallel between the recognition
of the Cubans by the United States, fifteen
months after that heroic people have waged
successful war against a cruel and despotic
European government, and the hasty recog-
nition of the Confederates by England at the
very beginning of our war. The South was
an integral portion of this free republic; Cuba
is a fearfully oppressed and remote colony.
Cuba is our near neighbor, belongs to our
American system, and we are closely con-
nected and interested with the commerce,
political condition and future of that country.
We have declared this to Spain and to the
whole world. We have ever maintained the
right of a colony to acquire independence;
we have reiterated the Monroe doctrine of
America for the Americans; and the sympathy
as well as the interests of our people is with
the Cubans. None of these conditions applied
to the case of the Southern rebels and Eng-
land. We could recognize Cuba by every law
of morality, national policy and right, without
damaging our Alabama claims. We could
recognize Cuba and still get the full amount
of these claims if the government were wise,
bold and firm. But Cuba is worth far more
in a money point of view to the United States
than the Alabama claims, and as a possession,
geographically or politically considered, or in
a naval or military sense, there is no com-
parison in the value. It is humiliating to see
this great republic sacrificing its principles,
policy and sympathies from fear of raising a
difficulty about the Alabama claims, and
because a few vain and weak public men in
Washington have made these claims a political
hobby.THE PAPAL COUNCIL—THE INFALLIBILITY
QUESTION.—Opposition is too strong, it seems,
for the Pope and the ultramontanists. The
Council was convened for the purpose of pro-
claiming the doctrine of papal infallibility, at
least for this chiefly. It was a hard blow
when the Fulda bishops spoke out against it.
It was harder still when Von Janus came out
thundering. It was discouraging to see the
most popular preacher in Paris break off from
the discharge of his duties for the reason that,
he thought the Council was about to befool if
not ruin the Church. The heaviest blow of all
was dealt by M. Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans,
who is at once a favorite with the Pope and a
powerful churchman. In our correspondent's
letter of yesterday it is made plain that Dupan-
loup has, as nearly as possible, killed infallibil-
ity. If he has killed it, who will be sorry?
Then again we find that the Russo-Polish
clergy have instructed their delegates to vote
against infallibility, against the union of
Church and State, in favor of a more elevated
order of education for the clergy, and against
the organization of the College of Cardinals
and its present exclusiveness. It looks like a
"good time coming" for both church and
people.THE PROSPECTS IN MEXICO.—The news
from Mexico is not hopeful. Discussions
among the liberals are foreshadowed, and the
cry of "Down with Juarez" may at any time
ring through the streets of Mexican cities. A
new trouble is now arising. The politicians
are not going to have the fight all to them-
selves. Of late the Protestants have been
making an effort to gain a foothold in Mexico,
and there is every reason to believe they are
going to have a hard road to travel in their
efforts to evangelize the country, as they term
it. The Protestant place of worship in Puebla
was recently attacked, and the preacher and a
few of his friends had some difficulty in
escaping with their lives. When will peace
reign in Mexico?NEWS FROM ST. DOMINGO.—From Havana
we learn that much excitement prevails in St.
Domingo among the people in relation to the
leasing of the Bay of Samana to the United
States. The revolutionists, we are told, are
making great efforts to overthrow Baez before
Congress can ratify the arrangement for the
lease. As these reports have come to us
through Spanish sources it is natural that
they should be tinged by Spanish influence,
whether they be true or false.A PRETTY QUARREL.—Salvador, the Hay-
tien President, informs the foreign consuls
that on and after the 6th of January the rebel
ports will be blockaded. Saget, the revolu-
tionary President, is out in a manifesto of the
same kind, and also informs the foreign repre-
sentatives that vessels are now coaling prepa-
ratory to blockading Port au Prince—the only
port in possession of Salnave. Looking at the
conflict as at present exists, "Tis a mighty
nice quarrel." Salvave's iron-clads, however,
may settle the question.The Postal Telegraph— Astonishing the
American Eagle.The words of Mr. Washburn, of Wisconsin,
on the postal telegraph are apt and excellent.
They have in them a downright common
sense and a respect for facts that will not
commend them to the class of big game
patriots; but they will furnish an excellent
basis for the practical legislation that is
aimed to secure the welfare of the people and
not to make the fortunes of jobbers. Mr.
Washburn made these cogent statements:—
"I claim to have shown that the United
States is the only enlightened nation on the
globe that has not taken charge of the tele-
graph system, and nearly all have made it
an appendage to the Post Office; that in the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland
a despatch of twenty words can be sent at a
uniform rate of one shilling to any part of
the kingdom, a distance of over seven hun-
dred miles; from one extreme of France to
another, about six hundred miles, for one
franc, or twenty cents; all over Belgium and
Switzerland for half a franc, or ten cents;
Denmark, twelve and a half cents; Prussia,
from twelve and a half to thirty-seven and a
half cents; Sweden and Norway, any distance
for thirty cents for a message of twenty words,
and one cent for each additional word that
a message may be made to contain; from
Marseilles, in the south of France, to the north
of Scotland, a distance of fourteen hundred
miles, traversing two kingdoms and crossing
the Straits of Dover by submarine cable, for
fifty-five cents. Yet in the face of these facts
the Chairman of the Committee on Post Offices
and Post Roads has told this House and the
country, in a solemn report, that telegraphing
in this country is the cheapest and most reli-
able in the world. Yet he could not have
failed to know that if he desired to send a
despatch of twenty words to his home in Illi-
nois, and was not favored with a 'D. H.'
pass, he would have to pay \$5; for a similar
message to the home of the Missouri member
of that committee \$4 would be charged; the
Michigan member, \$2 80; the New Jersey
member, \$1 25; the Massachusetts member,
\$1 25; the Indiana member, \$2 50; the
Kentucky member, \$2 50; the Nevada mem-
ber, \$9 28, and the Oregon member, \$15 50,
or \$5 70 more than it would cost to send a
message of ten words from Washington to
Constantinople by the Atlantic Cable and Con-
tinental lines."Now, the worst of all this is that it is true.
We are behind the age in the use of this great
agency of modern civilization, at the very mo-
ment that we are plunging ourselves on our
progressive spirit and on the way in which we
are leading the nations, as we suppose. We
have hurrahed so much and so long over the
political advantages of our American system
that we have well nigh deafened ourselves to
all mention and intimation that there may be
something else important as well as a man's
inalienable right to vote for his alderman.
This is a common consequence of preoccu-
pation—of the too great concentration of attention
upon a point that, after all, may not be the
vital point with regard to the happiness of the
people. The result is that while here man is
politically free he is socially the slave of
every monopoly; and in such "down-trodden"
countries as France, though individuals are
politically of small account, they have a social
freedom and importance of which our people
do not dream. The use of the telegraph is one
illustration of it. Telegraphs there are oper-
ated with a view to public con-
venience; here only with a view to ex-
torting the largest amount of money for
the smallest possible service. But it is the
same in the whole circle of the arts of
life—we are behind, and far behind, the nations
over which we sometimes assume an imperi-
ous superiority because of our political insti-
tutions, which would be excellent if they were
not rottenly corrupt. In their railroads, de-
spite our flurry of magnificence in sleeping
cars; in their hotels, in their markets, in the
general administration of justice, in the gov-
ernment of our cities, the people of Western
Europe have everything to teach us, and little
but chicanery and greedy extortion to learn
from our example.We hope the facts that Mr. Washburn has
so clearly set forth may awaken the attention
of the country to this most important subject
of bringing our telegraphic system up to the
spirit of the age; the more especially that
just now the great monopoly, whose hold on
the telegraph must be loosened, is maneu-
vering in the purlieus of Congress for a con-
tinuance and extension of its power. Indeed
great care is necessary to prevent the legisla-
tion now in progress touching Atlantic cables
from resulting in that way. Mr. Sumner's
bill, though satisfactory in its general spirit, is
open to the charge of being aimed especially
at the case of the French cable, and when it
becomes a law it may be found some day that
while it binds very closely the French com-
pany yet that it is carefully worded with re-
lation to correlative legislation to exempt from
its position the other cables. If Congressional
action thus discriminates against the French
cable it is because the French company has
not yet surrendered to the Western Union
Company. The only legislation in regard to
the telegraph that is safe is such as apparently
Mr. Washburn is ready to propose, involving
the proposition that the general government
shall assume the control of the telegraph under
the postal power, and construct new lines.THE GOVERNMENT SALE OF GOLD.—Secre-
tary Boutwell cut short the agony of "bulls"
and "bears" yesterday by promptly author-
izing the sale of the million of gold to the
highest bidders. The average price realized
was about 120½.OUR CUBAN CORRESPONDENCE.—We publish
in this morning's HERALD an interesting
budget of letters from our correspondents in
Cuba. The Mogate affair still occupies the
minds of people in the island—particularly
those of the strong Spanish party—who can
never see how the Spaniards can be defeated.
In the way of proclamations General Puella
has made a hit. For the hundred and first
time the insurgents are going to be crushed.
The army which undertakes this accomplish-
ment is "to go out with the flag of Castile gal-
lantly flying, as becomes it, from the glories
which it has acquired in all parts of the
world." The Cubans have never been more
active, and the Spaniards—well, they are pre-
paring for the campaign.

The Last of Bad Dickey.

We are having at one of our Metropolitan
places of amusement a travesty upon the
Plantagenet Richard the Third—the alleged
murderer of his two nephews in the Tower—
under the title of "Bad Dickey." We have
just enacted in the rural prison of Hackensack,
N. J., the tragedy of another "Bad Dickey,"
the convicted murderer of the man Colquhoun
and his (Dickey's) wife, and whose trial under
the head of Bad Dickey, or the "Bombay
Hook Tragedy," has engrossed so much of
public attention for the last week. This
unfortunate namesake of the travestied King
Richard on Wednesday evening, an hour or
two after his conviction of the double
murder, hanged himself in his cell by
means of a handkerchief which the jailer
improperly, after searching him, left in his
possession. In the same cell with him at the
time was the convict Eckerson, under sen-
tence of twenty years' imprisonment for man-
slaughter. This man pretended to be asleep
while Dickey was taking his quietus by means
of a handkerchief. When discovered by the
jailer life was extinct, and this Bad Dickey,
by his own act, did one act more than the law
allowed—took his own life, already forfeited
to the law. Thus ends the tragedy of Bad
Dickey and the Bombay Hook tragedy.DULL TIMES IN WALL STREET.—The
brokers have seldom experienced so dull a
market as just now exists in Wall street.
Transactions are just frequent enough to
make up a list of quotations. It is significant
that some of the brokers are advertising for
situations to do the Stock Exchange business
for other brokers.PLANS FOR DIVIDING THE SPOILS.—The
dissatisfaction of office-seekers is making itself
felt in various Congressional propositions ex-
tending more or less the principles of the
Tenure of Office bill for putting appointments
to office elsewhere than in the President. In
the House it has been proposed to make a law
requiring the offices to be equitably distributed
among the citizens of the different States.
This is to do away with the influential Con-
gressman who blusters in and gets an immense
share of patronage for his constituents, to the
disgust of the man who cannot get any. An-
other plan is proposed by Carl Schurz, in the
well known guise of a Civil Service bill. He
wants to give to an examining board the
power now vested in the President, and the
reason is that the President does not properly
exercise his discretion in appointing good men,
but gives way to the pressure of the politi-
cians. How shall we be assured that the
examining board will be any more superior to
political pressure? This great legislator
ought to see that his plan does not kill the
evil, but only changes its place.EVARTS is suggested for Attorney General to
succeed Hoar. But it is thought this will
not do. Reason—he was brilliantly identified
with the wrong side in the impeachment trial.
The war has served as our great touchstone
for a time. No matter what a man was, if he
was not right there the decree went forth
against him. And a man's standing on the
impeachment trial is to be an additional test
of the same nature.THE POSTMASTER GENERAL AND THE GIFT
ENTERPRISE SWINDLERS.—The "dead beats"
or "gift enterprise swindlers" are about to be
hoisted on their own petards. The game
is up with them. The Postmaster General
has issued instructions that all letters ad-
dressed to the swindling concerns in the city,
well known to the employees of the office, shall
be sent to the Dead Letter office at Washing-
ton. This blocks the gift enterprise swind-
lers. A good job. Let us have a few more of
the kind.